

REMARKS

Claims 4 and 5 are proposed to be amended herein. Claims 1-8 are presently pending in the above-identified application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication in the Office Action (see, page 2) that claims 6, 7 and 8 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants also wish to thank the Examiner for the indication in the Office Action (see, page 2) that claims 4 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. To that end, Applicants have amended and rewritten claims 4 and 5 in independent form (including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims from which such originally filed dependent claims ultimately depended) herein and respectfully submit that such pending independent claims are in condition for allowance.

Formal Drawings

Concurrent with this paper, Applicants have submitted eight (8) sheets of formal drawings in substitution for the originally filed informal drawings in the subject application. Applicants respectfully request that such formal drawings be made of record in the subject application.

Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejection

The Office Action rejected claims 1-3 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of copending Application No. 10/803,565 (the "565 Application").

Concurrent with this paper, and in order to expedite the allowance and issuance of all currently pending claims, Applicants have submitted a terminal disclaimer to overcome such obviousness-type double patenting rejection, and, therefore, Applicants

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respectfully submit that the subject obviousness-type double patenting rejection is overcome and request that this rejection be withdrawn.

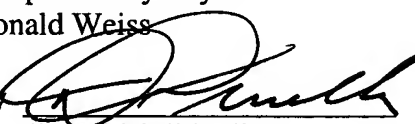
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that each of the currently pending claims in the application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration is requested. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date:

12/20/04
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Enclosures:

Formal Drawings

Terminal Disclaimer